

MUSSA Council Meeting
December 6, 2013 10-11:30 AM
Faculty of Information, Room 306

In Attendance: Robyn Bosnyak, Lauren Williams, Nora Venezky, Robin Nelson, Lily Jackson, Desiree Fuller, Kristen Atkins, Kaitlin Normandin, Nicole Ritchie, Jordan-na Belle-Isle

Regrets: Melissa Smith, Abigail Baker-Bigauskas, Cat Waszczuk, Sanja Ljaskevic, Cady Moyer, Marianne Williams

1. Call to Order at 10:00 AM

2. President's Report (Robyn)

Executive Committee Meeting

- Talked about iSchool Self-Study
 - Had to be in by Nov. 23
- Talked about consultation process
- Some concern about low-attendance (especially in MMSt part although concern it was poorly advertised as well)
 - Raw data from 2013 student survey added in at last minute (more positive than from 2010)
 - 2010 Student Survey with negative overtone
- External review happening in February
- MUSSA meeting, January 16th (the day after the Washington Trip)

Faculty Council Meeting

- iSchool institute moving to school of continuing studies

Program Modification Proposal Meeting

- Introducing concentrations
- Would roll out September 2015

CMA Conference

- Costis has been talking to the CMA about a student session at the annual conference
- Our program would act as the academic sponsor for that section
- A committee would be struck to select the papers
- The conference theme is “Innovation”
- The CMA would also like students to work with them for their Winter 2014 Muse magazine (4-7 students)
 - Could be students outside the faculty
 - High demand – Costis suggested making it an Independent Study project

3. Vice-President's Report (Lauren)

Debrief Hot Lunch Fundraiser

- Successful, good feedback from students and staff
- Approximately \$280 dollars surpassing our goal of \$250

- Tips for next year: start heating things up in the Crock-Pots well in advance (1-2 hours)

Washington Trip Updates

- All spots are filled now (We opened the last few spots to MI students)
- There will be some co-ed hotel rooms

Upcoming Event at Hart House

- Opportunity to sponsor (through advertising) an event at Hart House facilitating a discussion between a retailer of African Art and a Curator at the ROM

4. Social Chair Report (Melissa – Absent)

Debrief of Bake Sale

- Many people baked (some people just showed up with baked goods!)
- Silent Auction was a success
- Raised just over \$900

End-of-term Party

- Tonight at Hart House
- We have rented a private room
- There will be appetizers provided

5. Second Year Representative Report (Nora)

Mentoring Event

- Successful, though low MMSt representation

Class Reps

- Utilize Class Reps for making announcements in class
- Make this obvious at the beginning
- Using them to gather course evaluation information for MUSSA

6. First Year Representative Report (Nicole)

Nothing to Report

7. Treasurer's Report (Lily)

GSU Special Grant

- Grant available for course unions with less than 100 students in program
- Applied to fund the class trip next year (we wouldn't get the funding until after the trip has happened)
- Up to \$200
- Deadline is December 4

RBC Bank Fees

- Getting large fees for using our debit card
- Going to make meeting with bank to try and minimize this in the new year

8. Secretary's Report (Abigail – absent)

Nothing to Report

9. Musings Co-Editor (Cat - absent)

There was a meeting yesterday discussing the editorial direction of the blog (Nicole has a copy of the agenda)

- We will email Irina and ask for a copy of the agenda

10. MISC-MUSSA Liaison (Sanja -Absent)

Nothing to report

11. Committee Reports

GSU (Lauren)

- AGM happened November 25, 2013
- CFS petition still going through approval process on CFS end

Admissions (Marianne – Absent)

- Nothing to Report

Alumni Association (Robin)

- We have low Alumni representation
- Anyone who knows anyone who might be interested please contact Robin

Information Services (Nora)

- Inforum will be renovated in the next few years
- Inforum will be closed Sundays next semester
- Nora has suggested advertising other study spaces and weekend laptop rentals
- Desiree has suggested asking for extended hours during peak times
 - Going to bring ideas to Tech Fund

Life and Times (Cady - Absent)

- MMSt iTea “Show and Tell” a success
- iTea bought sweets from the Bake Sale for the November 27 iTea
- Next iTea in March about Exhibition Project

Programs (Kaitlin)

- Program Modification
 - There is concern that there is not enough faculty to guarantee the concentration course offerings
- Projection for 14 MMSt students to do a thesis in 2016
 - Do we have enough faculty members to advise this many students doing theses?
- Please email Costis about any concerns and encourage your classmates to do the same
- Costis wants to end the consultation process by January 16th
 - Is this enough time? This is the last week of class, and January 11-15th we are in Washington
- MMSt compiling an informal document of student opinions to keep things anonymous

Committee on Standing (Kristen)

- Nothing to Report

Tech Fund (Desiree and Jordan-na)

- After a referendum year bylaws have to be updated
- Executive members of MUSSA need to vote for a pass on new bylaws

- Changing quorum to simply majority included members from each program (was previously 100% of members)
- Tech Fund will fund mount-making seminar!

Additional News

- Desiree would like to put together an information session on becoming a Residence Don
 - Maybe mention to Jerome about talking about this at info sessions
- Doing a student housing post on Musings?
- Combining the end-of-year party and Exhibition Project celebration again this year
- Student survey next semester
- Asking second-years for the contact info for the Alumni Association

12. Vote to Adjourn 11:30AM